

CAL FIRE NEWS RELEASE

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection



San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit

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CAL FIRE - Fire Season Ends in San Mateo/Santa Cruz Unit; Burn Suspension Lifted

Felton – On Monday October 19, 2009, Chief John Ferreira, of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) San Mateo/Santa Cruz Unit announced the close of fire season. Unit Chief John Ferreira encourages residents to remember that even with increased rainfall, dry winds can still result in increased fire danger as fuels become dry. CAL FIRE is a full service fire department and will continue to respond to medical aids, hazmats, earthquakes and floods, or any statewide emergency from staffed stations throughout the Unit.

Effective at 8:00 a.m. Monday, October 19, 2009, the suspension of all permits from open burning within State Responsibility Area and Local Responsibility Areas under contract to CAL FIRE will be lifted.

The San Mateo/Santa Cruz Unit responded to over 130 wildland fires within the two counties. The vast majority of these fires were less than 10 acres, due to the aggressive initial attack by CAL FIRE and local fire agencies. The cooperation of the residents in maintaining 100' of defensible space around their homes and structures also had a major impact in helping keep these wildland fires small and reducing property damage.

CAL FIRE wants to remind everyone that it is each individual's responsibility to use fire safely and to prevent fires that destroy lives, property, and our wildland. **Be Fire Safe!**